



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

February 14, 2005

S. 176

A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the state of Alaska

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on February 9, 2005*

CBO estimates that implementing S. 176 would have no net effect on the federal budget. The legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

If requested by the licensee, S. 176 would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend the deadline for construction of a hydroelectric project (number 11480) in Alaska by up to six years. This bill would have a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. Hence, the legislation's provisions would have no net budgetary impact.

Because FERC's administrative costs are limited in annual appropriations, the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Lisa Cash Driskill. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.